HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

Property Address: 3416 30th Street, NW Agenda

Landmark/District: Cleveland Park Historic District X Consent Calendar Meeting Date: September 27, 2012 X Concept Review

H.P.A. Number: 12-559 X Alteration

Staff Reviewer: Anne Brockett New Construction

On behalf of owners Jenny Hills and Craig Asher, Michael Bruckwick of Katinas Bruckwick Architecture, seeks concept review to add a one story addition to the rear of this house in Cleveland Park. The residence was permitted in 1955 and falls outside of the Historic District's period of significance (1880-1941) and is therefore considered non-contributing.

Project Description

The house sits on the dead end 30th Street between Newark and Ordway Street. Its steeply graded site slopes toward the street so that the basement level is partially exposed and a front-facing garage is at street grade. Extensive retaining walls and the garages for 2416 and its twin at 3412 largely block the view of the rear yard from the street.

The 25 x 25' addition would extend at the rear of the house on the first floor only, reaching a height of about 14 feet at its tallest point. The design calls for a modern form and materials, and uses a modified butterfly roof, panel siding, and extensive glazing. On the rear elevation, full height windows are surmounted by a clerestory band of rectilinear and trapezoidal windows. Double French doors open to the rear under a modest canopy. Side windows are full-height, square, and trapezoidal to complement the style of the addition.

Evaluation

Because the house is non-contributing, a degree of flexibility is appropriate for the rear addition and the HPO takes no issue with any aspects of the design. The addition is similar in scale to the one at its twin next door and also meets the guidelines applied to Cleveland Park additions in general – it is deferential to the main block of the house in height and scale and it is set in slightly at the sides. Although it uses a modern form and materials, the addition will be largely invisible from the street and is none-the-less compatible with this house and the historic district.

Recommendation

The HPO recommends that the Board find the project compatible with the character of the historic district and delegate final approval to staff.